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SOURCE                Newspapers as indicated.

FISH WATER CONSERVATION IN NAN-CHING AND SHANSI;  
NEARBY TIENTSIN GRAIN CONTROL

NAN-CHING STRENGTHENS RIVER BREAKWATER -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 3 Feb 50

Nan-ching, 2 February -- The Nan-ching City government has begun repairing the river embankment along the outskirts of the city to prevent a repetition of the 1949 flood which inundated more than 22 square miles of rice fields. The work is expected to be completed in 3 months.

SHANSI PLANS IRRIGATION PROJECT -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 13 Feb 50

Chang-chia-kou, 11 February -- Preparations are being made to begin an extensive irrigation project in the Shan-yin and Ying-hsien areas of Shansi Province by utilizing the Sang-kai Ho. The first objective is to make about 85,000 acres of land irrigable in that region, and the second is to control the rapid flow of the Shang-kan Ho to prevent excessive erosion along the river banks.

The Sang-kan Ho rises near Shuo-hsien in Shansi Province and empties into the Yung-ting Ho near Cho-er in Hopeh Province. It is 376 kilometers long and has a gradient of about 2 meters per kilometer.

The surveying and planning have already been completed and the construction materials, such as cement, stone, brick, lumber, and lime for this project, are being collected or ordered. So far, 700,000 cubic meters of stone and bricks, 10,000 pieces of timber and 400,000 kilograms of lime have been accumulated. Approximately 800 tons of cement have been ordered by the Ministry of Agriculture. The work is to be started toward the end of spring.

NO GRAIN TO BE TAKEN FROM PROVINCE BY TRADERS -- Shang-hai Ta Kung Pao,  
1 Mar 50

Nan-ch'ang -- The Provincial government of Kiangsi has issued the following instructions to the various hsiens of the province:

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1. No publicly operated purchasing agency from outside the province shall henceforth buy any grain in this province and such agencies shall withdraw their present organizations from the province. They shall not purchase grain through private parties under penalty of the law.

2. Dealings in grain between merchants and farmers and the transport of the same within the province is advantageous to city dwellers, traders, and the farmers; consequently, such deals are to be given full freedom and any controls now existing should be removed.

3. Trading companies and grain companies carrying on trade within the province, according to the instructions of the Central and South China Military and Political Council, have a beneficial effect on the market so long as they do not remove grain from the province. Such trade is to be encouraged.

4. In accordance with instructions of the Central People's government and the Central and South China authorities, no military, government, or publicly operated business may carry on trade in grain. In case such trade develops, it shall be stopped and the persons in charge punished. Under supervision of the authorities of the area, consumers' cooperatives belonging to various government agencies may purchase and transport grain in the local area to provide for the wages of their employees, but may not offer any of it for public sale.

DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN EASTERN CHINA -- Shang-hai Ta Kung Pao, 1 Mar 50

Farmers in Wu-hsi Hsien have been greatly encouraged by the rent-reduction program. Many of them have been able to buy fertilizer and equipment for greater production this year by the sale of grain saved by rent reduction on last autumn's harvest.

Plans were laid at a meeting of agricultural leaders and the Hang-chow city officials, 23 February, to expand agricultural production in the area during the current season. The following increases in production were planned:

1. An increase of rice and wheat production of from 22 to 25 catties per mou 1/6 acre over 1949.
2. An increase of 16,000 mou in the area under cotton and hemp cultivation with a production goal of 20 catties per mou for unimproved cotton and 32 catties per mou for improved cotton. An increase of acreage under hemp of 34,000 mou with production per mou of from 2 to 4 piculs of hemp bark according to the type.
3. Green vegetables should be produced in an amount equal to last year, with special attention to those most valuable under famine conditions.
4. A return to tea production with 500 mou of tea gardens, as a minimum, and with a projected production of 800 piculs of dried tea.
5. No diminution in silkworm culture.
6. Use of idle hill sides, stream banks and pond banks for planting fruit orchards and other trees. Preservation of present groves and orchards.

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In T'ai-ts'ang Hsien, Kiangsu, which has been a noted cotton-producing area, a blight cut the 1949 yield to about one tenth of normal.

In view of the general conditions in the hsien this year, the authorities are planning to increase the cotton acreage by 140,000 mou for a total of 450,000 mou with a hoped-for yield of 42,075,000 pounds. It is expected to cultivate 299,600 mou of paddy rice with an average yield of 286 pounds per mou for a total of 85,685,600 pounds. Farmers are asked to plant 240,000 mou (40,000 acres) of wheat; at a hoped-for yield of 858 pounds per acre, a total of 34,320,000 pounds would be provided. Other crops may be raised according to local conditions, so long as the cotton acreage would not be reduced thereby.

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